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To consolidate the several Boards of Customs, and also the
several Boards of Excise, of *Great Britain and Ireland*.

WHEREAS by an Act passed in the fifty-sixth year of the
reign of his late Majesty King *George the Third*, intituled,
"An Act to unite and consolidate into one Fund, all the Public Re-
venues of *Great Britain and Ireland*, and to provide for the appli-
cation thereof, to the general service of the United Kingdom,"
the several funds called the Consolidated Fund of *Great Britain*,
and the Consolidated Fund of *Ireland* respectively, were consoli-
dated and made to constitute one general fund, called The Consolidated
Fund of the United Kingdom of *Great Britain and Ireland*;

Preamble -
56 G. 3.

And whereas it is highly desirable, that all the rates, duties, taxes,
receipts and revenues, forming part of or directed to be carried to the
said fund, or under any other denomination, constituting part of the
general revenues of the United Kingdom, under the management and
direction of the Lord High Treasurer of the United Kingdom of
Great Britain and Ireland, or the Commissioners of His Majesty's
Treasury of the United Kingdom of *Great Britain and Ireland* for the
time being, should be assessed, charged, levied, collected and
managed, in an uniform manner, and under uniform rules and regula-
tions throughout the whole of the United Kingdom;

And whereas it would tend greatly to accelerate the establishing
such uniformity of system and management, if His Majesty was em-
powered to appoint Commissioners or other persons, for the manage-
ment of each of the general branches or descriptions of the said
revenues, in the whole of the United Kingdom, in lieu of the Com-
missioners

Commissioners or other authorities, which have been heretofore by law appointed for the separate management of the same in *England*, *Scotland*, and *Ireland* respectively :

And whereas it is expedient more particularly to make immediate provision for such a Consolidation of Management, with respect to the Revenues of the Customs and of the Excise :

BE it therefore Enacted by The KING's most Excellent MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, THAT it shall be lawful for His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, from time to time to appoint, under the great seal of the United Kingdom of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, any number of persons not exceeding to be Commissioners of Customs, and any number of persons not exceeding to be Commissioners of Excise, for the collection and management of the whole of the revenues of Customs and Excise respectively arising in and throughout the whole of the United Kingdom of *Great Britain* and *Ireland* ; and also to appoint any number of persons not exceeding to be Assistant Commissioners of Customs, and any number of persons not exceeding to be Assistant Commissioners of Excise, for the purpose of acting in manner hereinafter mentioned, in conjunction with the Commissioners to be appointed as aforesaid, in the collection and management of each of the said revenues of Customs and Excise respectively arising in *Scotland* and *Ireland* ; and that each of such Commissioners and Assistant Commissioners, when so appointed, shall have and hold his respective office during His Majesty's pleasure.

Authorizing the appointment of a Board of Commissioners of Customs, and a Board of Commissioners of Excise for the United Kingdom, and Assistant Commissioners for *Scotland* and *Ireland*.

Not to repeal or alter any Act, otherwise than as therein authorized.

Provided always, and be it Enacted, That nothing in this Act contained shall extend or be construed to extend to repeal or alter any Act or Acts, or any provision in any Act or Acts of Parliament in force, relating or having reference to the said respective duties of Customs or Excise in *England*, *Scotland* or *Ireland* respectively, at or immediately before the expiry of such Act or Acts are expressly repealed or altered by this Act.

Powers of Boards, and powers of Commissioners.

And be it further Enacted, That any of such Commissioners of Customs shall constitute a Board of Commissioners of Customs ; and that any of such Commissioners of Excise shall constitute a Board of Commissioners of Excise for the whole of the United Kingdom, to sit and act in *England* ; and such Boards of Commissioners of Customs and of Excise respectively shall have and exercise throughout the United Kingdom, all and any and every such powers and authorities as are now given to or vested

vested in, or as might be used and exercised by the Commissioners of Customs, or the Commissioners of Excise respectively, under or by virtue of any Act or Acts of Parliament in force at or immediately before the passing of this Act; relating to the duties and revenues of Customs and Excise respectively, in *England, Scotland or Ireland* respectively; and all such powers and authorities shall be and are hereby given to and vested in each Board of Commissioners of Customs as to the duties and revenues of Customs, and in such Board of Commissioners of Excise as to the duties and revenues of Excise; as fully and effectually to all intents and purposes whatsoever, as if such powers and authorities, and all clauses, regulations, provisions, penalties and forfeitures relating thereto respectively, were severally separately and respectively repeated and re-enacted in this Act and made part thereof; and all rules, orders, regulations, acts, matters and things which shall be made directed and done by such Board of Commissioners of Customs, or Board of Commissioners of Excise respectively, in anywise concerning the duties or revenues of Customs or Excise, under their respective control or management respectively, or relating to the collection or management of such duties and revenues respectively, and which by any Act or Acts of Parliament, law, usage or custom in force, at or immediately before the passing of this Act, are or were authorized or required to be made or done, or which might be made or done by the Commissioners of Customs or Excise in and for *England, Scotland or Ireland* respectively, in relation to the said duties or revenues respectively, shall be and be deemed to be as good valid and effectual in the law, to all intents and purposes, as if made or done under any such Act or Acts of Parliament, by the Commissioners heretofore separately acting for *England, Scotland and Ireland* respectively; and all persons whatever in *England, Scotland or Ireland* respectively, shall be subject and liable to the same pains and penalties for doing or omitting to do any act matter or thing relating to or in anywise concerning any of such duties or revenues of Customs or Excise respectively, contrary to any such orders or directions, rules or regulations of such Commissioners, as such persons respectively would have been subject and liable to, for doing or omitting to do the same acts and matters or things respectively, contrary to any order or direction of the Commissioners of Customs or Excise for *England, Scotland or Ireland* respectively, by virtue of any Act or Acts of Parliament in force at or immediately before the passing of this Act: Provided always, That all orders, directions, rules and regulations in force at the time of the passing this Act, which are not altered or varied by this Act, or contrary to any of the provisions thereof, shall remain in full force and effect until the same shall be abrogated, annulled, altered or varied by the General Commissioners under this Act.

Commissioners for Scotland and Ireland,

And be it further Enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland from time to time, or any or more of them, or for the Lord High Treasurer of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland for the time being, to order and direct any one or more of such Commissioners of Customs, and any one or more of such Commissioners of Excise, together with

of such Assistant Commissioners of Customs, and of such Assistant Commissioners of Excise respectively, to sit and act as a Board of Commissioners of Customs, and as a Board of Commissioners of Excise respectively, in and for Scotland and Ireland respectively, and for the dispatch of business in those parts of the United Kingdom, under the control and direction of the respective Boards of Commissioners of Customs and Excise respectively, sitting and acting in England, and that such Board of Commissioners for Scotland and Ireland respectively, shall (under such control and direction as aforesaid) have and be invested with the management and control of all matters relating to the respective duties of Customs and Excise arising in Scotland and Ireland respectively; and that any of such Commissioners in Scotland and Ireland respectively, shall have full power and authority to order, direct, act, do, permit and suffer all and every such acts matters and things relating to or concerning the duties and revenues of Customs and Excise in England and Scotland respectively, as by any Act or Acts of Parliament in force at or immediately before the passing of this Act were authorized required or permitted to be done by the Commissioners of Customs and Excise in Scotland or Ireland respectively, or any of them; and that all such rules, orders, acts, matters and things, which shall be made and done by such Commissioners in Scotland or Ireland respectively, under the authority hereby granted, shall respectively be good valid and effectual in law to all intents and purposes: Provided always, that the Board of Commissioners in Scotland and Ireland respectively, shall in all things observe, perform and fulfil, and cause and procure to be observed, performed and fulfilled, in and throughout Scotland and Ireland respectively, so far as the same may be practicable, the several orders, rules, directions and regulations, which shall be made or given by the General Board of Commissioners sitting and acting in and for England aforesaid.

All Commissions, Deputations, Appointments, to remain in force.

And be it further Enacted, That all commissions deputations and appointments, granted to any officers of the Customs or Excise respectively, at any time before the passing of this Act, and in force at the time of the passing of this Act, shall remain in full force and effect; and all such officers respectively, whether appointed for England, Scotland or Ireland, shall continue to hold such respective commissions

missions deputations and appointments; and all such commissions deputations and appointments shall be deemed construed and taken to be good valid and effectual in every part of the United Kingdom; and the persons holding the same shall have full power and authority to execute the duties of their respective offices and appointments, and enforce all laws, regulations, penalties and forfeitures, relating to the duties and revenues for which they shall have been appointed, either in *England, Scotland or Ireland*, as fully and effectually to all intents and purposes, as if they had been appointed for the said United Kingdom, or by the Commissioners under this Act; any thing in any Act or Acts of Parliament to the contrary notwithstanding; and all bonds which shall have been given by any such officers respectively, and their sureties respectively, for good conduct or otherwise, shall remain in full force and effect, so long as they shall respectively continue in their respective offices; and that such officers shall hold their respective offices during the will and pleasure of the Boards of Customs or of Excise to be appointed under this Act, in all cases in which they before held such offices, subject to the will and pleasure of any of the now existing Boards of Customs and Excise in *England, Scotland or Ireland*, and that they shall be under the control and authority of the said Boards respectively, and liable to the same pains penalties and punishments, to be inflicted by the said Boards, as might heretofore have been inflicted upon them by the Boards by which they were originally appointed.

And be it further Enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Lord High Treasurer, or the said Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury for the time being, and they or any or more of them are hereby empowered to abolish or reduce any establishment of officers of the Customs or of the Excise, in any port or district or collection in any part of the United Kingdom, in which such offices may heretofore have been established, whenever such abolition or reduction may appear to them to be expedient for the public service; any Act or Acts, law, usage or custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

Treasury may
abolish
Offices.

And be it farther Enacted, That whenever any act matter or thing is required by any law relating to His Majesty's Revenues of Customs or Excise in *Scotland or Ireland*, to be done or performed by any number of Commissioners of Customs or Excise, the same act matter or thing may be done by any or more of the Commissioners under this Act in *Scotland and Ireland* respectively; any thing in any Act or Acts of Parliament to the contrary notwithstanding.

Queens of
Commissions,
ers in Scot-
land and
Ireland.

Provided always, That nothing herein contained shall in any wise affect any covenants, deeds or engagements which any former or the

Act not to
affect Coven-
ants made
by secretaries
of Boards.

present Secretaries to the respective Boards of Customs in *England, Scotland or Ireland*, may have been entered into or been concerned in behalf of His Majesty, His Heirs or Successors, relating to his or their revenues of Customs; but that all such covenants deeds or engagements shall remain in full force and effect, and such Secretaries may sue or be sued, as they might have been if this Act had not been made. 5

*Boards to be
under control
of Treasury*

And be it further Enacted, That all such Commissioners of Customs and Excise respectively to be appointed under or in pursuance of this Act, shall in all respects be subject to the like liabilities, restraints, duties, obligations, and disabilities respectively, to which the Commissioners of Customs and Excise respectively in *England, Scotland and Ireland* are now respectively subject, and to the orders and control of the Lord High Treasurer, or of the Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury of the United Kingdom of *Great Britain and Ireland*, and shall be subject and liable to all such penalties forfeitures and punishments, as Commissioners of Customs and Excise respectively for *England, Scotland and Ireland* respectively are or would be subject or liable to, under or by virtue of any Act or Acts of Parliament, law, usage or custom, in force at or immediately before the passing of this Act. 10
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*Act may be
altered.*

And be it further Enacted, That this Act may be altered, varied, or repealed by any Act or Acts to be passed in this present Session of Parliament.

4 GEO. IV.—Sess. 1823.

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B I L L

To consolidate the several Boards of Customs,
and also the several Boards of Excise, of
Great Britain and Ireland.

Ordered by The House of Commons to be Printed
27 March 1823.
